

SENATE RESOLUTION 173

By Faulk

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ben Carmichael of White Pine.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Ben Carmichael; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carmichael was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, after proudly serving his country as a member of the United States Marine Corps during World War II, Ben Carmichael returned home to Tennessee and earned both bachelors and masters degrees in education from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carmichael continued his scholarly pursuits at Vanderbilt University's Peabody College of Education in Nashville, from which he received a PhD in education administration; and

WHEREAS, deeply committed to the most selfless precepts of public service, Ben Carmichael devoted his life to education, serving in a number of increasingly challenging positions throughout his career, standing as a teacher, a principal, a school superintendent, a trustee emeritus at the University of Tennessee, and, ultimately, the Commissioner of Education under Governor Winfield Dunn; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carmichael was a lifelong member of Ebenezer United Methodist Church, which he served faithfully for many years as a caretaker of the church cemetery; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Ben Carmichael married his childhood sweetheart, Daisy, and the couple enjoyed sixty-three years together, raising their four children on the farm on which Mr. Carmichael spent his childhood; and

WHEREAS, the Carmichaels lovingly restored the family farmhouse, built in 1891, and Mr. Carmichael enjoyed the life of a gentleman farmer after retiring from his estimable career in education; and

WHEREAS, Ben Carmichael leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory and celebrate the life of Ben Carmichael, reflecting fondly on his enduring legacy in the service of education and his commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction. We extend our condolences and express our sympathy to Mr. Carmichael's family and many friends.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.